

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed May 14, 2003 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 1-11 remain pending in this application, of which claims 1 and 6 are independent. Claims 1, 2 and 6 have been amended. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as herein amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,542,935 to Ishii in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,507,577 to Mauger et al. ("Mauger").

Claim 1 recites "registering the aliases and IP addresses of said first terminal and said remote access server . . ."

This limitation is comprised of two separate statements:

- 1) "registering the . . . IP addresses of said first terminal and said remote access server . . ."
- 2) "registering the aliases . . . of said first terminal and said remote access server . . ."

Item 3 of the Office Action cites in rejection of the above composite limitation various passages from Ishii, but none provide disclosure or suggestion of registering either the IP address or the nick, i.e. alias, of a "remote access server," and both would have to be disclosed to meet the limitations of claim 1. In fact, Ishii fails to disclose or suggest a remote access server.

Item 3 seems to suggest that the Ishii call agent 302 is a remote access server, but this is incorrect. In addition, even if call agent 302 could properly be characterized as a

remote access server, Ishii fails to disclose or suggest “registering the aliases and IP addresses of said first terminal and of said remote access server . . .”

Mauger deals with using a circuit connection to bridge packet-based networks, but does not discuss registering aliases or IP addresses. Mauger cannot make up for the deficiencies in Ishii.

Moreover, the proposed combination would change the principle of operation of the primary reference.

If the proposed modification or combination of the prior art would change the principle of operation of the prior art invention being modified, then the teachings of the references are not sufficient to render the claims *prima facie* obvious. *In re Ratti*, 270 F.2d 810, 123 USPQ 349 (CCPA 1959) MPEP 2143.01

Ishii, the primary reference, is directed to using a permanent address, like a device address, in temporary substitution for a temporary IP address on a local area network. Ishii’s methodology relieves terminals of the burden of re-registering their IP address every time it changes at the risk of missing a subsequent call if the terminal fails to do so.

Mauger, by contrast and as mentioned above, is directed to using a circuit connection to bridge packet-based networks, to thereby enhance the quality of service of a packet-based network for telephony. Messages are exchanged according to a protocol back and forth between terminals on both respective sides of the circuit connection in order to establish the circuit connection.

In rejecting claim 1, item 3 of the Office Action splits claim steps a) through e), with steps a), b) and d) being allegedly disclosed by Ishii and steps c) and e) being allegedly disclosed by Mauger. However, Ishii’s method operates on an IP network (see, e.g., Ishii, FIG. 5). The Ishii terminal-to-terminal message protocol applies to an IP

network and not to activating a circuit network as in Mauger. Ishii cannot be configured on a circuit network without changing the principle of operation of Ishii. Accordingly, claim 1 is not rendered obvious by the proposed combination. To emphasize the above distinction of claim 1 over the prior art of record, claim 1 has been amended to state that communication between the remote access server and the second terminal is over a circuit network. Support for this amendment is found in the specification (page 4, lines 18-20).

For at least all of the above reasons, claim 1 is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by the applied references. Dependent claims 2-5 are likewise deemed patentable over the prior art cited for at least the same reasons. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

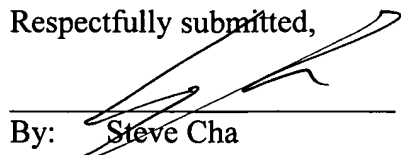
As to claim 6, item 3 of the Office Action in rejecting claim 6 splits claim steps a) through e), with steps b) and d) being allegedly disclosed by Ishii and steps a), c) and e) being allegedly disclosed by Mauger. As discussed above regarding claim 1, however, Ishii cannot be configured on a circuit network without changing the principle of operation of Ishii. Accordingly, claim 6 is not rendered obvious by the proposed combination. Dependent claims 7-11 are likewise deemed to be non-obvious over the applied references for at least the same reasons. To emphasize the above distinction of claim 6 over the prior art of record, claim 6 has likewise been amended to state that communication between the remote access server and the second terminal is over a circuit network.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the

undersigned in the event of any perceived outstanding issues so that passage of the case to issue can be effected without the need for a further Office Action.

If there are any fees due and owing, please charge Deposit Account No. 502-470.

Respectfully submitted,


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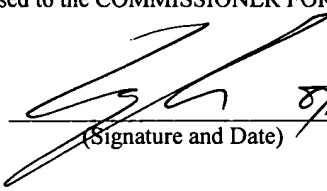
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 8/13/03
(Signature and Date)